

Lampson Brook Farm Board of Directors
Minutes: July 7, 2021

Board Attendance: David Haines, Jonathan Spiegel, Tammy Ryan, Gerard Kennedy, Bob O'Connor

Introductions: Each person introduced themselves and the minutes from the June 1 and June 17th meetings were approved.

Pete Westover and Elizabeth Wroblicka from Conservation Works updated the Board on work they are doing on the Management Plan. Pete has held several meetings with Lampson Brook farmers and the Agricultural Commission to gain their input into the Plan. Elizabeth discussed the agenda for the Public Information meeting that will be facilitated by Conservation Works on July 20th at 6:30 – 8:30 to be preceded by two farm tours at 4:00 (one for the Community Farm and one for the Forest parcel). The purpose for the meeting is to gain public input into the vision for the Farm. Pete will present a summary of the progress of the Management Plan and will pass out a short outline of the Plan to participants. The two key aspects of the Plan are to inform the RFP's for the parcels and to guide the operation of the Farm for the next ten years. Elizabeth is working on summaries for each of the five parcels or sectors that make up the Farm and will pass that out to participants. Rather than figure out what zoning changes might be needed for the Enterprise Zone, it was agreed that defining the uses for the Zone would happen first and these uses would help guide a future overlay zone. After an overview on the Management Plan, the participants will be asked to join 5 breakout groups facilitated by Conservation Works (one group for each of the 5 parcels). The facilitators will report back on the ideas generated by the group and what vision direction was given. The meeting will end with general questions and answers and next steps for the project. There was a discussion on how to widely distribute the meeting notice.

There was a discussion of whether the forest parcel is principally for outdoor recreation or forestry. It was agreed that an education and demonstration goal was important to all the parcels. There was a discussion about the Enterprise Zone. A recent tour by an MDAR staffer concluded that most of the buildings need to be removed. How the safety and viability of the parcel can also include the history of the parcel was discussed. The interpretation of the past along with new buildings that fit into the agricultural landscape seems to be the direction for the parcel. Where the funding can be obtained to remove buildings and debris continues to be an important question. The MA Food Ventures grants were mentioned as a possible source of funds if the site were used for food production or processing. The Isenberg School at UMass Amherst is working on a pre-RFR process for the Enterprise Zone so actual proposals can be analyzed with their expertise. Laurie Sanders of CW will bring historic building experts to look at the two Community Farm barns and the Jepson Homestead. Dick O'Brien of CW is evaluating the trail network on the Forest parcel. Mollie Hale of CW has also installed wildlife cameras and have already photographed a bear on the farm. A discussion of the future of the Compost site followed. There was a discussion of the draft bylaws which focused on the role of the conservation restrictions and agricultural preservation restriction and the Board. What

authority does the Board have versus the CR/APR's? This seems like an important issue to figure out. Bob O'Connor reported that the survey firm of Sherman and Frydryk of Palmer have been selected by EEA to conduct a survey of the Farm and its five parcels. They will update the Board after their reconnaissance is complete and when a draft plan is complete.

The Board agreed to meet on July 27th at 5:00 p.m. There was a vote to adjourn at 6:20.